

# Division I Academic Standards

**Division I schools** require you to meet academic standards. To be eligible to practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship in your first year of full-time enrollment, you must meet the following requirements:



DIVISION I

1. Earn 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in the following areas:

| ENGLISH | MATH<br>(Algebra I or higher) | SCIENCE<br>(Including one year of lab, if offered) | EXTRA<br>(English, math or science) | SOCIAL SCIENCE | OTHER<br>Any area listed to the left or courses listed in additional discipline (world language, comparative religion or philosophy) |
|---------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4 years | 3 years                       | 2 years                                            | 1 year                              | 2 years        | 4 years                                                                                                                              |

2. Complete your 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in eight academic semesters or four consecutive academic years from the start of ninth grade. If you graduate from high school early, you still must meet core-course requirements.
3. Complete 10 of your 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits, including seven in English, math or science, before the start of your seventh semester. Once you begin your seventh semester, any course needed to meet the 10/7 requirement cannot be replaced or repeated.
4. Earn a minimum 2.3 **core-course GPA**.
5. Ask your high school counselor to upload your **final official transcript** with proof of graduation to your Eligibility Center account.

## EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER

If you meet **specific criteria** after six semesters of high school, you may be deemed an early academic qualifier for Division I and may practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment.

## QUALIFIER

You may practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment.

## ACADEMIC REDSHIRT

You may practice during your first regular academic term and receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment but may NOT compete during your first year of full-time enrollment. You must pass either eight quarter or nine semester hours to practice in the next term.

## NONQUALIFIER

You will not be able to practice, compete or receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment.



ELIGIBILITY CENTER

GRADE  
**9**  
REGISTER

- » If you haven't yet, **register** for a free Profile Page account at [eligibilitycenter.org](https://eligibilitycenter.org) for information on NCAA initial-eligibility requirements.
- » Use NCAA Research's **interactive map** to help locate NCAA schools you're interested in attending.
- » Find your high school's list of NCAA-approved core courses at [eligibilitycenter.org/courselist](https://eligibilitycenter.org/courselist) to ensure you're taking the right courses, and earn the best grades possible!

GRADE  
**10**  
PLAN

- » If you're being actively recruited by an NCAA school and have a Profile Page account, **transition** it to the required **certification account**.
- » Monitor the **task list** in your NCAA Eligibility Center account for next steps.
- » At the end of the school year, ask your high school counselor from each school you attend to upload an official transcript to your Eligibility Center account.
- » If you fall behind academically, ask your high school counselor for help finding **approved courses** you can take.

GRADE  
**11**  
STUDY

- » Ensure your **sports participation** information is correct in your Eligibility Center account.
- » Check with your high school counselor to make sure you're on track to complete the required number of NCAA-approved **core courses** and graduate on time with your class.
- » Share your **NCAA ID** with NCAA schools recruiting you so each school can place you on its **institutional request list**.
- » At the end of the school year, ask your high school counselor from each school you attend to upload an official transcript to your Eligibility Center account.

GRADE  
**12**  
GRADUATE

- » **Request your final amateurism certification** beginning April 1 (fall enrollees) or Oct. 1 (winter/spring enrollees) in your Eligibility Center account at [eligibilitycenter.org](https://eligibilitycenter.org).
- » Apply and be accepted to the NCAA school you plan to attend.
- » Complete your final NCAA-approved **core courses** as you prepare for graduation.
- » After you graduate, ask your high school counselor to upload your final **official transcript** with proof of graduation to your Eligibility Center account.

How to plan your high school courses to meet the 16 core-course requirement:

$$4 \times 4 = 16$$

**9<sup>th</sup>**  
GRADE

(1) English  
(1) Math  
(1) Science  
(1) Social Science  
and/or other

**4 CORE COURSES**

**10<sup>th</sup>**  
GRADE

(1) English  
(1) Math  
(1) Science  
(1) Social Science  
and/or other

**4 CORE COURSES**

**11<sup>th</sup>**  
GRADE

(1) English  
(1) Math  
(1) Science  
(1) Social Science  
and/or other

**4 CORE COURSES**

**12<sup>th</sup>**  
GRADE

(1) English  
(1) Math  
(1) Science  
(1) Social Science  
and/or other

**4 CORE COURSES**

**CONTACT THE NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER**

U.S. and Canada (except Quebec):  
877-262-1492 (toll free), Monday-Friday  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern time  
International (including Quebec):  
[on.ncaa.com/IntlContact](https://on.ncaa.com/IntlContact)



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ELIGIBILITY CENTER